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STRANGE, AARON N				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/687,219

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

AARON STRANGE

Art Unit

2448

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 May 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/7/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

2. With regard to claim 1, and Applicant's assertion that Cattán and Arneson fail to disclose "storing message state information at the computer system that is unique to a message to be sent to a device" (remarks 10-11), the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Cattán discloses storing state information about messages to be sent to a device, specifically, a session resolution table containing an ID of the mobile terminal and a SMS destination of the application, as well as ONKEY and ONPICK attributes (col. 15, ll. 24-36). This state information is unique to a message in the sense that a particular message is generated in response to receipt of a request having attributes that match an entry in the table, the state information does not contain a message identifier that uniquely identifies a particular message, such that subsequent messages with identical same content are distinguishable using the identifier.

However, in a similar system, Arneson teaches use of an identifier that is unique to a particular message (¶52-53). Adding such an identifier to the table taught by Cattán and including the identifier in messages sent between the computer and the device would have been advantageous since it would have allowed reply messages to be quickly associated with previously sent messages, preventing reply messages from being correlated incorrectly and permitting multiple sessions with a single mobile device,

since messages with otherwise identical content would be distinguishable using the unique identifier.

When properly considered in combination, Cattán and Arneson would have taught and/or suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art to store and use a unique message identifier associated with particular messages as a means to differentiate reply messages and allow them to be quickly associated with original messages to determine the appropriate actions to take in response to the message.

3. With further regard to claim 1, and Applicant's assertion that Cattán fails to disclose "retrieving the stored state information ... to obtain the mapping associating at least a portion of the action information with the message identifier" (Remarks 11-12), the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Cattán discloses retrieving the stored state information (session resolution table information is retrieved)(col. 16, ll. 5-10) and using the information obtained from the session resolution table to obtain the mapping associating at least a portion of the action information (URI to be accessed to perform the requested action) with the message identifier (the session resolution table information is used to obtain the correct URI associated with the particular message being processed (col. 16, ll. 1—30)).

Applicant appears to be confused regarding the distinction between the "state information" and "action information" taught by Cattán and Arneson (Remarks 12). In the combined system of Cattán and Arneson, the "state information" is the information in the session resolution table used to identify incoming messages, including the ID of the

mobile terminal and a SMS destination of the application, as well as ONKEY and ONPICK attributes taught by Cattán and the unique message identifier taught by Arneson. The "action information" is the information describing which action is to be performed in response to the message, which includes the URI to be accessed to perform a requested command.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cattán et al. (US 6,961,330) in view of Arneson et al. (US 2001/0056508).

6. With regard to claim 1, Cattán discloses a method for messaging with devices in order to perform one or more actions, the method comprising:

storing action information at a computer system (Cellular-to-Web Converter 140) that acts as an intermediary for devices (mobile terminal 110) to access a set of one or more applications (application server 150/170) to perform the one or more actions (action information is stored in a session resolution table at the computer system)(col. 9, ll. 46-50), the stored action information providing an action identifier (fig. 8; possible

Responsive SMS Messages) identifying each action in the one or more actions and a mapping between the action identifier and information specifying how the computer system interacts with at least one application in the set of one or more applications to perform the action corresponding to the action identifier (possible actions are correlated with particular active server pages that are used to perform the actions and generate responses)(col. 8, l. 61 to col. 9, l. 5; col. 15, ll. 30-36; figs. 5 and 8);

storing message state information at the computer system that is associated with a message to be sent to a device (fig. 8), the message state information providing a message identifier automatically generated by the computer system to identify the message to be sent to a device (ID of the mobile terminal to which the message was sent and the SMS destination address of the application from which the message originated are stored in the session resolution table)(col. 15, ll. 24-30) and a mapping between the message identifier generated by the computer system and the stored action information (the ID of the mobile terminal and the SMS destination address are mapped to a particular active server page URI)(col. 15, ll. 24-30; col. 16, ll. 7-10);

sending the message to a device using the computer system, the message sent to the device including one or more action identifiers corresponding to actions represented in the message (SMS message containing a list of the action identifiers is sent to the mobile terminal)(col. 15, ll. 45-52);

receiving a response message from the device at the computer system, the response message including at least one of the one or more action identifiers for the

actions represented in the message sent to the device (response message includes a selection of one of the action identifiers)(col. 15, ll. 58-67);

retrieving the stored message state information associated with the message sent to the device using the computer system to obtain the mapping between the message identifier and the stored action information based on the message identifier received in the response message from the device (appropriate action information is obtained using the mapping between the ID and the SMS destination address and the URI associated with the appropriate action)(col. 16, ll. 1-14);

retrieving action information corresponding to an action in the one or more actions using the computer system from the stored action information based on the at least one of the one or more action identifiers for the actions represented in the message sent to the device and the mapping between the message identifier and the stored action information (stored action information is retrieved and output to the HTTP request manager)(col. 16, ll. 1-14); and

performing the action using the retrieved action information (the selected command is executed to obtain a response)(col. 16, ll. 14-45).

Cattan fails to specifically disclose that the message identifier uniquely identifies a particular message or that the message identifier is included in the message sent to the device and received in the reply from the device.

Arneson discloses a similar system for transmitting messages between a mobile device and a notification server (§8). Arneson teaches assigning a unique identifier (claim check) to each message (§53). Arneson also teaches including the identifier in

the message sent to the mobile device (¶52; ¶83) and in the reply received from the mobile device (¶85). This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Cattán since it would have allowed reply messages received from the mobile devices to be associated with a particular message sent to the mobile device, allowing the system to quickly and accurately identify the appropriate actions to take based on the response by referencing the session table using the unique message identifier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a message identifier that uniquely identifies a message sent to a mobile device, since it would have allowed reply messages to be quickly and accurately associated with original messages to determine the appropriate actions to take in response to the reply message.

7. With regard to claims 2 and 25, Cattán further discloses that the action information comprises information compatible with a web-based application, wherein the web-based application is used to perform the action (commands may be used to get information from a web server)(col. 16, ll. 14-20).

8. With regard to claim 3, 23 and 24, Cattán further discloses that the sent message comprises a text-based message and the response message comprises a text-based message (messages sent to/from the mobile device are SMS messages)(col. 15, ll. 45-67).

9. With regard to claims 4 and 14, Cattan further discloses sending a result of the performed action to the device (information retrieved by the server is returned to the device)(col. 16, ll. 34-45).

10. With regard to claims 5, 6, 13, 19 and 20, Arneson further discloses determining, from a response message, information specific to the device (identifier of calling device) and information specific to a user associated with the device (claim check) (§53). This information is used to retrieve stored event information from a database (§53; §60).

11. With regard to claims 7 and 22, Cattan further discloses that sending the message to the device comprises sending the message to a mobile device (mobile terminal)(col. 15, ll. 45-47).

12. Claims 8, 15 and 21 are rejected under the same rationale as claim 1, since they recite substantially identical subject matter. Any differences between the claims do not result in patentably distinct claims and all of the limitations are taught by the above cited art.

13. With regard to claims 9, 10 and 18, Cattan further discloses that the second information that enables the one or more actions to be performed comprises state

information for a web-based application, particularly a URL (col. 15, ll. 24-30; col. 16, ll. 1-30).

14. With regard to claims 11, 12, 16 and 17, Cattin further discloses that the sent message and the text message each comprise a plain-text message (both messages are SMS text messages)(col. 15, ll. 45-67).

Conclusion

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AARON STRANGE whose telephone number is (571)272-3959. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Firmin Backer can be reached on 571-272-6703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron Strange/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2448